GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:709
ANSWERED ON:18.07.2002
VIOLATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS
MADAN PRASAD JAISWAL

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received complaints through Officers/Soldiers of the Army regarding violation of human rights in various States;

(b) if so, the details in this regard during the last three years up to June 2002;

(c) whether the Government have initiated any inquiry into such cases to ascertain the facts;

(d) if so, the number of complaints found genuine; and

(e) the number of persons against whom action has been taken by the Government?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES)

(a)&(b):Yes, Sir. In the period under consideration, 3 complaints regarding violation of human rights have been received from serving Armed Forces personnel - 2 relating to harassment by the State Police and the third, seeking ex-gratia financial assistance from the Central Government for the death of a child in an IED blast by militants in a bus in J&K.

(c)to(e):In the first two cases relating to harassment by State Police, the respective State Governments were requested to investigate and send their reports. One State Government has completed investigation and has awarded punishment.In the other case, State Government has ordered investigation through the crime branch. In the third case relating to the death of his daughter in an IED blast, the serving officer requested for compensation. There is no provision for payment of ex-gratia compensation in such cases. Therefore, his request could not be acceded to.